

U.S.S.N. 09/993,435

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Enter 5/10/03***In The Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A single ply of a sheet molding composite sheet prior to compaction used for making composite parts having an improved surface characteristics comprising:

- an upper carrier film layer;
- a first resin paste layer;
- a plurality of chopped unfilamentized ~~or partially filamentized~~ fibers;
- a resin impregnated filamentized fiber layer; and
- a bottom carrier film layer.

2. (currently amended) The sheet molding composite sheet of claim 1, wherein said plurality of chopped unfilamentized ~~or partially filamentized~~ fibers form a resin impregnated unfilamentized ~~or partially filamentized~~ fiber layer when the single ply of the sheet molding composite sheet is subsequently compacted.

3. (original) The sheet molding composite sheet of claim 1, wherein the composition of the resin component of said first resin paste layer and said resin impregnated filamentized fiber layer comprises a polyester resin.

4. (original) The sheet molding compound of claim 3, wherein said composition of said first resin paste layer and said resin impregnated filamentized fiber layer further comprises fillers, a resin inhibitor and initiator, an alkaline earth oxide, and an internal mold release agent.

5. (original) The sheet molding compound of claim 1, wherein the fiber composition of said resin impregnated filamentized fiber layer comprises filamentized E-type glass fibers.